

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BROWN COUNTY FIRE INVESTIGATION TASK FORCE

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

A meeting of the Board of Directors of the Brown County Fire Investigation Task Force was held on Monday, March 12, 2018, at 1:00 p.m., at the Brown County Sheriff's Office, 2684 Development Drive, Green Bay, WI.

Present: Eric Dunning, Alan Matzke, Joe Patenaude, Rob Goplin, Todd Delain, David Poteat

Excused: Glenn Deviley, David Lasee

Item #1. Adoption of the Agenda.

Motion was made by Delain and seconded by Goplin to adopt the agenda. **Motion carried.**

Item #2. Review Minutes of Previous Meeting.

Motion was made by Delain and seconded by Goplin to approve the minutes of the previous meeting on December 14, 2017. **Motion carried.**

Item #3. Report of General Membership Coordinator.

Patenaude reported there were 13 call-outs in 2017, which included two double-fatal fires, with a total loss of \$1.8 million. The Task Force was called out to the following fires since the last meeting:

12-28-17 1732 Keehan Ln., Bellevue (residence/undetermined)
01-19-18 6081 CTH B, Pittsfield (fatal/residence/undetermined)
01-21-18 4157 Shirley Rd., Denmark (semi-truck/undetermined)

Patenaude noted he was on duty for all three of these fires and was forced off the road to respond to them due to no one else responding.

Joe Gabe, Steve Zich and Sean Linssen have resigned from the Task Force. There are currently 14 level III and IV investigators and 19 level I and II investigators. Five of these are Green Bay Police Department officers who have not attended anything since 2015. There was some discussion about keeping them on or replacing them with someone who will respond to calls. It was noted that the Task Force rarely gets called into the city. Maybe another department would have someone who is interested. It was noted that Steve Nick, who is a level III, has not been to any call-outs nor has Steve Yedica.

Patenaude and Dhuey will be attending FARO training.

The IAAI spring conference is June 5-7, 2018, in Stevens Point.

There was a question as to who can get a special inspection warrant signed by a judge. Per Kevin Heimerl from DCI, a Task Force member cannot sign as a designee for the fire chief—the chief has to get it signed in front of the judge. Heimerl also states that no return of search warrant is necessary. After discussion, it was decided the Task Force will continue to do a return of search warrant.

Patenaude informed there were some concerns with medical examiners from the Dane County ME's Office at fatal fires with having no protection/safety equipment and possibly causing cross-contamination issues at the scene and are moving bodies before investigators have a chance to process the scene. Delain will address this with them. He suggested inviting them to attend a General Membership meeting.

Motion was made by Delain and seconded by Matzke to approve the General Membership coordinator's report. **Motion carried.**

Item #4. Financial Report.

Delain reported the balance in this year's budget is \$29,704; however, that doesn't include any expenses that may have been incurred in March. Motion was made by Matzke and seconded by Goplin to approve the financial report. **Motion carried.**

Item #5. Old Business.

A. Disposition of Case Proceedings.

Lasee was not present.

B. Task Force On-Call System.

Attendance for call-outs is the big issue. Matzke stated the on-call system could be similar to that of HazMat's in which a contact person can be called to assess whether or not the Task Force is needed. The contact person could be the coordinator, assistant coordinator or a senior member of the Task Force who would want to be involved. Delain wants to know what the General Membership thinks about it. Patenaude will bring this to the General Membership for discussion.

Item #6. New Business.

No new business to discuss.

Item #7. Report of Juvenile Firesetter Program Coordinator.

Patenaude reported there were no new juveniles referred to the program. Cody Johnson from Green Bay Metro Fire has left the JFP coordinator position but will remain on until a new person fills it. Angie Cali got accepted into the Fire Academy, so she may be a possibility.

Item #8. Other Matters.

No other matters were discussed.

Item #9. Set Date, Time, and Location of Next Meeting.

The next meeting was set for Thursday, June 14, 2018, at 9:00 a.m. at the Brown County Sheriff's Office.

Item #10. Adjourn.

Motion was made by Delain and seconded by Matzke to adjourn the meeting. **Motion carried.**
Meeting adjourned at 1:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Marsha Laurent
Recording Secretary